

Message Text

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67

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10

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SAJ-01 SAM-01 SS-20 NSC-07 DODE-00 H-03 OMB-01 EB-11

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FM AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4446

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FOR UNDER SECRETARY SISCO FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (ZUMWALT, ELMO R., JR.)

SUBJECT: ADMIRAL ZUMWALT'S VISIT TO ICELAND

REF: REYKJAVIK 0461

1. ADMIRAL ZUMWALT'S VISIT TO REYKJAVIK WAS AN OUTSTANDING SUCCESS. HE MANAGED TO BREAK DOWN THE RESISTANCE OF SEVERAL INFLUENTIAL ICELANDIC POLITICIANS WHO UNTIL NOW REFUSED TO LISTEN, LET ALONE BELIEVE, THE MILITARY ARGUMENTS FOR IDF RETENTION. THE GIVE AND TAKE ON A SERIOUS POLITICAL-MILITARY LEVEL BETWEEN ZUMWALT AND SOME OF THESE POLITICAINS (FOR INSTANCE, EYSTEINN JONSSON, LEADER IN THE PROGRESSIVE PARTY AGAINST THE IDF) IS CONSIDERED UNPRECEDENTED IN ICELANDIC POLITICAL LIFE. THE ADMIRAL TALKED TO APPROXIMATELY 50 PERCENT OF THE NON-COMMUNIST MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT (AND ONE COMMUNIST MP ON FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE), CHAIRMEN AND LEADERS OF THE OPPOSITION PARTIES, AND PERSONS WITHIN THE COALITION GOVT PARTIES WHO ARE PROMINENT IN PARTY POLICY MATTERS. FONMIN AGUSTSSON WAS DELIGHTED WITH THE ADMIRAL'S VISIT AND TOLD ME YESTERDAY THAT ZUMWALT'S IMPACT IN MODERATING THE VIEWS

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OF SEVERAL OF THE POLITICIANS WILL BE FELT FOR SOME TIME

TO COME IN OUR FAVOR.

2. WE WORKED THE ADMIRAL HARD, BUT TO GOOD ADVANTAGE. HE COOPERATED WONDERFULLY. WE ARE STILL IN FOR TOUGH TIMES ON THE IDF ISSUE, BUT NOT AS TOUGH AS BEFORE HIS VISIT. HE HAS THE THANKS OF ALL OF US IN ICELAND WHO ARE TRYING TO MAKE SOME SENSE OUT OF THIS PLACE.

3. I AM CALLING THIS TO YOUR ATTENTION BECAUSE ADMIRAL ZUMWALT'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN REYKJAVIK DESERVE RECOGNITION AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS OF THE DEPT.

IRVING

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